

## NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE SPICE PROGRAMME

<https://www.nssp-india.org/>

RAW MATERIAL SPECIFICATIONS	
PRODUCT- BLACK PEPPER ( <i>Piper nigrum spp.</i> ) Domestic Market	
<b>Product Description</b>	Pepper Black (Kalimirch) whole means the dried berries of <i>Piper nigrum</i> L., brown to black in colour with a wrinkled pericarp.
<b>Origin</b>	India
<b>Grade</b>	IPM
<b>Physical &amp; Cleanliness characteristics</b>	It shall be well dried and free from mould, living and dead insects, insect fragments, rodent contamination.
	Extraneous and Foreign matter (% ,Max) 0.5
	Insect damaged matter 0.5
<b>Chemical characteristics</b>	Moisture (% , Max) 13.0
	Total Ash on dry basis (% , Max) 6.0
	Non volatile ether extract (% , Min) 6.0
	Volatile oil content 2.0
	Piperine content (% , Min) Vary depending on variety
	Pinheads or broken berries 2.0 Light berries 5.0
<b>Food safety related acceptance criteria</b>	Salmonella in 25 g sample Absent
	The product shall be free from added colour, mineral oil and any other harmful substances.
	Free from Allergens such as Peanut, Gluten, Mustard, sesame etc.
	Pesticide residue shall comply with the FSSAI regulations.
<b>Packaging and labeling requirements</b>	The material shall be packed tightly in clean and neat Woven bags with PP cover/ bag inside. All materials being supplied shall comply with all regulations under food safety and standards (packing and labelling) regulations ,2011 [chapter 1&2] and food safety and standards (contaminants, toxins and residues) regulations, 2011 [chapter 1&2]
<b>Storage condition</b>	Store in dry closed place, away from sunlight, protected from insects, rodents. Materials must be kept on pallets and away from wall. It shall be tightly packed without any air circulation
<b>Shelf Life</b>	The material shall be freshly packed, with characteristics odour and flavor. The material must be used within three month from date of purchase and immediately once the bag is opened. Resample and analyze in case the material stored more than the given timeline and use as per QC instruction